

REMARKS

The above amendment and these remarks are filed in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, dated 5 July 2004.

In the following table, revised from the table originally provided in the Response/Amendment filed 4/20/04, applicants set forth their understanding of the renumbering and invention group assignments:

Current Claim Number	Original Claim Number	Invention Group
1	1	I
2	2	I
3	3	I
4	4	I
5	5	I
6	6	I
7	7	I
8	8	Canceled
9	9	I
10	10	I
11	11	I
12	12	I
13	13	I

14	14	I
15	15	I
16	16	I
17	20	I
18	33	I
19	34	I
20	36	I
21	48	I
22	50	IV
23	51	I
24	52	II
25	53	III
26	54	I
27	56	III
28	59	Not specified
29	37	IV
30	38	IV
31	39	IV
32	40	IV
33	41	IV
34	42	IV
35	43	IV
36	44	IV
37	45	IV
38	46	IV
39	47	V
40	55	I
41	57	I

42	17, 60	III
43	18, 61	III
44	19, 62	III
45-62	canceled without prejudice	various

Applicants urge that the above amendments be entered and the case passed to issue with claims 1-7, 9-21, 23, 26, 28, 40-41.

In the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, Examiner Ellis determines that the following items are non-compliant:

- 1.A. Amended paragraphs do not include markings.
- 1.B. New paragraphs should not be underlined (for example, in claim 30).
- 4.A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present (4.E. Claims 44-62 are not present).

With respect to 1.A., Applicants' attorney has carefully reviewed the amendment and does not find any amended paragraphs without markings.

With respect to 1.B., applicants have submitted in this

amendment no new claims. Claim 30 is marked as "Withdrawn - currently amended", and is, applicants believe, appropriately marked. However, claim 34 was improperly marked as "Withdrawn - currently amended", so applicants have corrected the marking as simply "Withdrawn".

With respect to 4.A and 4.E, applicants have indicated that these claims are canceled. This cancellation is presented without prejudice, inasmuch as the subject matter of these claims remains in the case, as is set forth in the above chart.


CONCLUSION

The Application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action by the Examiner is urged. Should differences remain, however, which do not place one/more of the remaining claims in condition for allowance, or if this Amendment is deemed Non-Compliant under 37 CFR 1.121, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below for the purpose of providing constructive assistance and suggestions in accordance with M.P.E.P. Sections 707.02(j) and 707.03 in order that allowable claims can be presented in a compliant manner for examination on the merits, thereby placing the Application in condition for allowance without further proceedings being necessary.

Sincerely,

E. B. Boden, et al.

By


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